

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN SA 03167 211710Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 MCT-01 PM-05 COME-00 HA-05
TRSE-00 IO-13 AID-05 PC-01 AF-10 CIAE-00 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 OPR-02 SCS-06 CA-01 ACDA-12 /129 W
-----012981 212014Z /62

R 211641Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8540
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 3167

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, ASEC, SHUM, ES
SUBJECT: SECURITY CONCERNS IN EL SALVADOR

REF: SAN SALVADOR 2716 AND 2698

1. TWO CITED REFTELS HAVE DESCRIBED WORSENING SECURITY
SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR AND BURGEONING GROWTH OF SECURITY
INDUSTRY WITH SUPPLY OF TRAINED GUARDS, WEAPONS AND PROTECTIVE
SYSTEMS RUNNING CONSISTENTLY BEHIND DEMAND.

2. GOVERNMENT'S APPARENT INABILITY TO SOLVE OR OTHERWISE
COPE WITH THREE MOST RECENT KIDNAPPINGS HAS REINFORCED
BELIEF OF PRIVATE BUSINESS SECTOR AND WEALTHY ELITE
THAT THEY MUST LOOK TO THEIR OWN SECURITY.
APPREHENSIONS ARE WHETTED BY THREATENING LETTERS AND
PHONE CALLS NOW REACHING THEM IN GROWING VOLUME.
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SITUATION IS REPORTEDLY COMPLICATED BY SALES PROMOTION
TACTICS OF SOME LOCAL SECURITY-PURVEYING FIRMS WHO
ALLEGEDLY MANUFACTURE OR INSINUATE THREATS AGAINST WHICH
THEY THEN OFFER PROTECTION.

3. FOREIGN COMPANIES ARE BRINGING IN SECURITY CONSULTANTS,
SOME FROM HOME OFFICES AND OTHERS ON CONTRACT BASIS. ONE

COMPANY PLANS TO CONTRACT SECURITY GUARDS FROM ARGENTINA AND CHILE ON GROUNDS THAT THESE ARE FAMILIAR WITH TERRORISM PROBLEM AND WILL BLEND INCONSPICUOUSLY INTO LOCAL SCENE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT GERMAN EMBASSY WILL SOON RECEIVE ITS OWN SECURITY PERSONNEL DIRECT FROM BONN. COMPANIES KNOWN TO US HAVE IN SOME CASES TEMPORARILY ABSENTEED FOREIGN EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL FROM EL SALVADOR AND IN OTHERS HAVE EXPEDITED ALREADY IMMINENT TRANSFERS IN FACE OF PERCEIVED THREATS.

4. UNDER THESE CONDITIONS, OUR EMBASSY IS RECEIVING NUMEROUS REQUESTS FRO ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE. WE HAVE MET ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF BUSINESS COMMUNITY, HAVE DISTRIBUTED COPIES OF STATE DEPARTMENT PUBLICATION 8884, "COUNTERING TERRORISM," ARE SHOWING TRAINING FILMS ON SECURITY TO INTERESTED AUDIENCES, AND HAVE ESTABLISHED OFFICE OF SECURITY AS POINT OF CONTACT WITH CONCERNED BUSINESSMEN.
DEVINE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PHYSICAL SECURITY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANS03167
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780259-0411
Format: TEL
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780635/aaaabeeee.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2a433984-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 SAN SALVADOR 2716
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2264251
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY CONCERNS IN EL SALVADOR
TAGS: PINS, PINT, ASEC, SHUM, ES
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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